

Application No. 10/823,203
Amendment Transmitted November 22, 2005
Reply to Office Action Mailed August 23, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The Listing of Claims set forth below shall replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

What is claimed is:

1.-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently amended) A method of identifying whether a compound is an agonist or antagonist of *Aedes aegypti* sterol carrier protein-2 (AeSCP-2) cholesterol binding activity, comprising the steps of:

(a) incubating an AeSCP-2 polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 with ~~a biological target~~ cholesterol in the presence of a compound; and

(b) measuring the ability of the compound to enhance or block the interaction between the AeSCP-2 polypeptide and cholesterol ~~the biological target~~ to thereby identify an agonist or antagonist effective in altering AeSCP-2 ~~biological~~ cholesterol binding activity.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Amended) A method for identifying compounds which bind to or interact with an *Aedes aegypti* sterol carrier protein-2 (AeSCP-2) polypeptide, comprising the steps of:

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(a) contacting an AeSCP-2 polypeptide with a compound to be screened under conditions to permit binding to or interaction between the compound and the AeSCP-2 polypeptide to assess the binding to or interaction with the compound, such binding or interaction being associated with a detectable signal in response to the binding or interaction of the AeSCP-2 polypeptide with the compound; and

(b) determining whether the compound binds to or interacts with the AeSCP-2 polypeptide by detecting the presence or absence of the signal generated from the binding or interaction of the compound with the AeSCP-2 polypeptide.

11. (Original) The method according to claim 10 wherein the AeSCP-2 polypeptide has the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:3.